

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 27, 2008

**ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT ASSIGNS 8TH CIRCUIT
JUDGE M. CAROL POPE TO APPELLATE COURT**

The Illinois Supreme Court on Monday assigned Eighth Judicial Circuit Judge M. Carol Pope to the Illinois Appellate Court, Fourth Judicial District. The assignment is effective December 1, 2008 until further order of the Court.

Judge Pope's service on the bench dates back more than 17 years, to November 1991 when she was appointed by the Supreme Court to serve as a Circuit Judge in the 8th Judicial Circuit. She was elected in 1992 and was retained in 1998 and 2004.

From 1984-1991, Judge Pope served for seven years as Menard County State's Attorney. She was responsible for all traffic, felony, misdemeanors, conservation and ordinance prosecutions, as well as juvenile neglect, abuse and delinquency prosecutions. Judge Pope also served from 1983-1984 as attorney with the Chicago firm of Mayer, Brown and Platt, handling estate planning, pension, tax and employment matters for individual and corporate clients.

After obtaining her bachelor of social work, magna cum laude, from the University of Illinois in 1975, Bronze Tablet, Judge Pope graduated with honors from DePaul University College of Law in 1979. While there, she was the Law Review lead articles editor. After obtaining her *juris doctor* degree, she served as law clerk to Chief Judge J. Waldo Ackerman of the U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois from 1979-1983.

Judge Pope serves on numerous judicial conference committees, including the Illinois Judicial Conference Executive Committee and the Committee on Education since 2002; she was appointed chair of the Committee on Education by the Supreme Court earlier this year. She has also served as faculty for several annual judicial conferences, including the New Judge Seminar; faculty chair of the Illinois Judicial Conference on Domestic Violence, and the Illinois Judicial Conference, Strategies for Evaluating and Managing Violent Offenders.

She is treasurer of the Illinois Judges Association and also serves on its Board of Directors. Her legal memberships also include the Central Illinois Women's Bar Association; president of the Lincoln-Douglas Inn of Court from 2003-2004; Menard County Bar Association and assembly delegate for the Illinois State Bar Association from 1998-2000.

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Judge Pope is active with several civic and legal organizations, including chair of the legal issues committee of the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council; Menard County Family Violence Prevention Project; Menard County School and Community Task Force; and Menard County University Women.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323)